ON THE DRAWING BOARD

GATEWAY COMIC BOOK FAN CLUB

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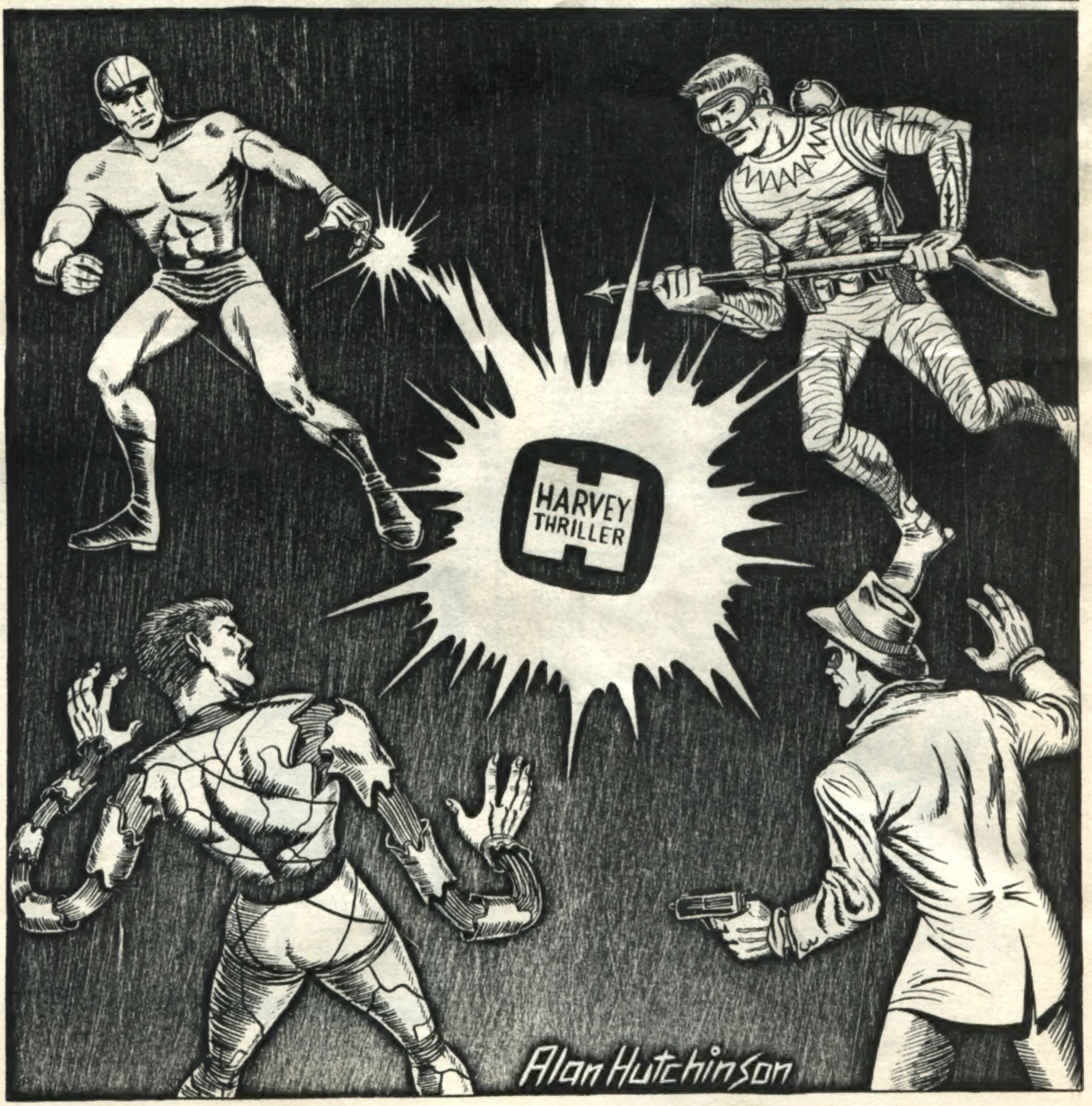
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ACBFC.



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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ACBFC.

If you are one of the many fans who's intrests are far more broad than comic books alone, you will find many hours of reading pleasure ahead with...

THE RETURN OF THE PULPS!

Bantam is still going strong with Doc Savage, and his latest adventure is called the Land of Always--Night. They are planing to release on more book in the "Man of Bronze" series this year--The Fantastic Island. If all goes well, the good Doc may have his own newspaper strip soon as well as the Gold Key comic book. Moreover, there is talk of movies and television at the present time. // Paperback Library Shadow-Go Mad! out within the next few weeks. Maxwell Grant has Lamont Cranston flipping his lid when he faces his latest foe. The early books in this series were rather weak, but each title about the hypnotic Avenger is better than the last. // Corinth Library now has four series' going on pulp heroes and villains of the 30's & 40's. There should be something here to please most everyone in the vein of detective, spy or supernatural books that they are releasing as of late. // For the detective fan, there are now 20 Phantom Detective books to read. The latest adventure pits the master of disguise against the Fourty Thieves. // If you like spys and intrigue, then Operator 5 or Agent X should be more to your liking. Jimmy Christopher, as Operator 5, battles The Hosts of Flaming Death in the fourth book of this series, while the Mysterious X faces oriental tricks and traps in The Curse Of The Mandarin's Fan. // For those of you with more goulish and occult taste, the first three books of the Doctor Death series should intrest you. This mad scientist is bent on returning the earth back to more peaceful (and primitive) times by using science and magic to wreck havoc and terror on the earth. // Due to poor sales policy, you may have trouble finding these books, but they can be ordered to: Corinth Publications, 5839 Mission Gorge Rd.; San Diego, Cal. 92120. All the titles sell for 70¢ through the mail.

HARDBOUNDS TO REACH FOR

Sherbourne Press has compiled the "Olivar Quade--Human Encyclopedia" stories into one volume, and added a foreword on the life and times of the pulp story in Brass Knuckles by Frank Gruber. For those who don't remember, or were too young to know, Quade's adventures took place in Black Mask pulp. Here are included the best of the series plus a 40 page article on pulp writing of the 30's. For those with an intrest in Nostalgia, and those who would like to know more, the cost is $5.95 at most stores. // Charles Schultz has two new titles in most stores now. One continues the popular "Happiness Is..." series. The title is Home is on Top of A Doghouse, and the illos are in the best of the Peanuts tradition. For those who have enjoyed Snoopy's adventures as the Red Baron, Holt, Rinehart and Winston have released Snoopy and the Red Baron. More adventures with the mythical WW I ace, at $2.00. // AT LAST--Late November should see the release of Nostalgia Press' Flash Gordon book which I mentioned some months ago. This should be one of the finest items of the season. To reserve your copy now, send the $6.95 to Nostalgia Press, Box 293, Franklin Square, New York 10010, N.Y.

COMICS IN PAPERBACK--

The Great Comics Game has just hit the book stands and is well worth the $1. fee. John Stanley and Mal Whyte are both fans, and they've done their best to produce a book loaded with memories and art by the original artists. There are a few mistakes, but they will be overlooked when you begin to probe your brain for memories of the old newspaper and comic book world. This one is a must for the fan library. // Joe Kubert's interpretation of The Green Berets by Robin Moore can now be purchased in PB form. This features the first, and limited story of Chris Tower as he faces the Viet Cong Cowboy. A mere 50¢ for this gem. // Signet is still pumping with Batman, but the latest edition is only for the real frantic fan. It features bill Adler's Funniest Letters to Batman. Unfortunately, if you follow the letter columns in the Weisinger books, you won't find these to be quite as funny. Too bad. Also included in the Batman file, is the novelization for the new movie.

WAR AND WOMAN WONDER--

The Metal Men find Doc Magnus in trouble once again and battle The Rage of the Lizard to save him in their January issue. // Star Spangled War Stories 130 has an american sailor learning that Secrets Die On Monster Island. // Captain Storm 17 has the sea farin' amputee puzzled over The First Shot For A Dead Man. Sgt. Rock is getting his mail delivered in Our Army War 175 and finds that he has recieved The TNT Letter. // Sgt. Hunter's search is side tracked again in Our Fighting Forces 105. It all involves Blood Loyalty! And back to her old fighting capers in neat art work by Andru and Esposito is the original Miss America, Wonder Woman! If you wonder why I make special mention of the artwork, it is because the Golden Age look is gone, and the work of the 50's has replaced it. The Secret of Tabu Mt. causes WW to lose her secret identity. Is Diana Price gone forever???

CHARLTON'S CHAMPIONS--

The new look at Charlton both in story line and art is ever changing. For instance, Judo Master has to stop a giant cannon holding up allied shipping and in the course of the adventure Meets The Tiger; and he's not a new villain! Sgt. fills out the issue with a tale in which he meets the Devil's wife. This all takes place in JM 93. // Thunderbolt battles a new meanie in his latest, #55, Where Stalks the mummy! and that singing group--the Sentinels meet the Mind-Bender. // The Fightin' Five have been relegated to second place villing when the peacemaker takes over the title spot in two tales in #1 of his own book. The diplomat turned warrior battles the Killer On The Reef and The Hidden Power. And you won't believe the changes made in Fightin' 5 when the tackle the Ruler Of Darkness in the first part of their new cliffhanger. // Over in Go Go #5, Grass Greene gets his start in the pro world when he takes over the Blooperman strip from ol' Bill Dubay, and handles those refugees from the fanzine world--The Bestest League Of America. And don't forget to watch for Superella, the girl with the transistorized fairy God-Mother! She really swings! // Last, but not least Captain Atom teams up with that darling of darkness, Nightshade, again. Together they pit powers against one of the strangest pairs of villains ever to hit the pages of a comic! Don't miss it when CA & NS get tangled in the strings of Punch & Jewelee! // And Ditko's Blue Beetle meets his first super villain...// Charlton opens the new year in grand fassion with the appearance of Dr. Graves of Ghostly Tales in his own book called The Many Ghosts of Dr. Graves. Many new titles and lineup changes are coming, so hang around.

THE CROWNS OF KING--

Flash Gordon 3 features art by Ric Estrada and a cover by Al Williamson. But the big news about this book is that Al will return to do all of issues 4-6! Getting back to #3 though, Bill Pearson scripted these two tales in which Flash is forced to disguise himself as a Lizardman in the cave world, and fight it out with a cyclops in the arenas of Mongo, while Ming watches. Bill Harris swears these have the old Flash Gordon flavor! // Mandrake 3 features writing by one of the Wood brothers--Dick, and the art is completely by Andre Leblanc this issue. Mandrake comes to believing in ghosts when a dead bandit returns to life to terrorize a border town, and magic doesn't work on him.

// Out of the past of the Phantom, returns one of his female ancestors. The girl was a hit with many older Phan-fans, and they have been asking for her to return; so Bill Harris has penned a new tale about her. The Phantom of the present finds sci-fi action for himself when he journeys to the center of the earth to the city of Mytors. // Besides the action heroes, some of the best comedy titles around appear in King's three humor titles. Look for Popeye, Blondie, and Beetle Bailey when they appear, and see if you don't agree. // King has several features in the working stages at this time. If all goes well, such titles as Buck Rogers and Secret Agent X-9 will be back to thrill you soon. And if the female Phantom is a hit, you'll find her featured as a 4 page filler in some of the other books.

THE GOLD KEY CREW--

You can add another costume hero to the ever increasing ranks shortly, as we see the return of The Owl, the old hero of Crack-A-Jack comics, in a new modernized form. He'll be doubling as a private eye and costumed hero in each issue. // The Green Hornet makes his comic debut soon, with the second ish slated for February release. This is strictly for the TV crowd as it has all the trimmings of the video show! (And according to reports from Michigan, even George Trendle, the Hornet's creator, is unhappy about the TV version.) // Dr. Solar winds up fighting himself in Solar vs. Solar in the January ish of his mag. It might be interesting if a new twist to the old theme can be worked out.// Turok and Andar find adventure in a cave as they continue their search for a way out of the lost valley. In January they pit their skills against the man who ruled honkers. // For UNCLE agents, the November issue features The Trojan Horse Affair. Then in October, The girl From Uncle bows in with The Fatal Accidents Affair. In February, she returns with the Kid Commandoes Affair.// For the TV fans, Gold Key has several items coming up. The second issue of I Spy appears in January when the two agents discover that something is stolen, but they can't figure out what it is. // Time Tunnel appears in November and Features three tales of suspence based on historical events. // Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea has the crew discovering an undersea island. // Twilight Zone has a criminal who discovers a town in which he must commit a crime a day, or go to jail.

KASHDAN'S CAPERS--

Aquaman once again battles the forces of OCRE when the world-wide terror organization goes out of its way to wipe out the sea king. // The Blackhawks are all wiped up and turned into the Junk Heap-Heroes in issue 228. // The Sea Devils face the dea wolf in a battle that covers the 7 seas in issue 33. // The Teen Titans find themselves right up to date and really boss when their latest villain doffs his garb direct from Carnaby St. and proves to be the ginchiest. Don't miss the Mad Mod in #7. // Robby Reed dials up another trip of heroes to battle Dr. Cyclops, the vill ain with the dooms day stare in House of Mystery 164. The Martian Manhunter keeps the world free of spys in the same ish. // A new partner shows up on the Metamorpho scene! Its element girl, and with Metamorpho's powers too!

THE BATMAN LINEUP--

Detective for December has the masked manhunter facing the Spellbinder, another kooky villain derermined to wipe out Batman. In the January issue, the Bat Girl is back for a million dollar debut! And it's thumbs down for Batman in the December Worlds Finest, when a mess of villains team up to pit the man of steel against his coweled partner. // Robin makes the Justice League in issue 50 when the Kid Crusader joins Batman, Flash, Green Arrow, Aquaman, and Wonder Woman to battle the Lord of Time. // In Brave & Bold 69, Batman teams up with Green Lantern again. // When Superman starts having incredible nightmares in Action 344, Batman proves to be the only clue to their occurance.

ACCENT ON ACTION FROM ACG--

Hitler is wanted dead or alive in issue 169 of Unknown. History is going wild; could Nemisis change it? // Another oriental menace takes shape, and Magicman is there to help. It becomes all out war when MM is told to Beware The Cheinesse Sorcerer! // John Force becomes a Dead Duck In Red China in the latest of his magical espionage tales in Unknown Worlds 52. // Herbie has the fat fury up to his plunger in battle in Just Like Magic in #22. The second story has the fat nothing whipping up laughs in Almost a King.

THE BEST OF BOLTINOFF--

The Doom Patrol winds up deader than dead when Beast Boy becomes "Kid Disaster" in the December issue, #108. For a happier note, see what happens to Sugar & Spike when Grampa Plumm returns to become The Cowboy Santa Claus. // There is a new boss for the Rangers, in Tomahawk 108. // And here's a twist: Plasticman 2 features three origin stories about the ductile detetive!

DELL'S DEMONS--

// Frankenstein 4 features this hero in The Return of Mr. Freek, Silence is Deadly, and Trouble Comes in Threes. // Kona fades after issue 21 when the caveman hero discovers the Secrets Of Atlantis. Farewell to one of the longest running titles from Dell. // Super Heroes 2 has the android avengers batling the Clown and his cohorts, Mr. Nutt and Johnny Boom-Boom. // In Tales Of The Green Beret 2, the men find themselves out on operation: Ten Little Indians. // Fans of T.H.E. Cat will enjoy the new Dell version of this hero.

AND COMICS IN THE NEWS--

P.S. Magazine is no more! The nostalgic magazine with several fine articles on comics folded with the fourth issue. Tis a shame too, for the staff seemed quite interested and competent. Wonder who will get the articles on Max Brand and Edgar Rice Buroughs.

Linus, the comics fanzine from Italy, featured the Marvel Comics Group in their June issue. There were several mistakes, but it was still interesting to see what the Italians think of this group and its producers

The National Observer for September 11, had a full page on the newspaper strips. Strip collectors should try to pick up a copy.

The Toronto Telegram for September 24th, carried an article on comics, but delt primarily with collectors and the high prices paid.

Fabulous, the English Pop music magazine ran an issue on Superman on August 20th. Cover featured was Adam West in Bat-Costume, and Burt Ward in civies. There is a two page spread inside on the duo and their debut on British TV.

England really has an advantage. Since mid June Batman and The Hulk have been appearing in the English Weekly--Smash. /Can anyone provide ye editor with copies of this, and similar comic carrying papers??/ Batman is only the daily strip, but they run all six days on one page. The Hulk covers three or four pages each issue in black & white. Sometimes I think we American fans are spoiled by our demand for color comics. Many artists are great in this format!

Don Glut is now assistant editor of Modern Monster, and is able to do articles on the serial heroes in each issue. Issue 3 featured Captain Marvel, and no. 4 had articles on Spy Smasher and Green Hornet.

MORE BOOKS--

Lancer books will be releasing two novels based on the Marvel heroes. Ted White is doing one on the Fantastic Four, and Otto Binder is working on the Avengers. If these sell, Lancer may try others in the future.

Marvel in the meantime, has discovered the Big Little Books. They are very interested in doing a number of them in the near future. But I do hope that it will be new material and not just a rehash of old art with redone story line.

Tower has four paper backs out now featuring their heroes. If you cannot find them, you try writing to them direct. Available now are NoMan, Menthor, Dynamo, and the Thunder Agents. 50¢ ea.

WEISINGER'S KRYPTONITE KREW--

Superboy faces the Mechano Master when the engineering whiz of crime shows up with devices to foil the life of the kid from Krypton in the January issue of his book.// Jimmy Olsen borrows the powers of a few of his fellow members of the Legion Of Super Heroes in order to battle the weapons wizard in the January ish of that mag--#99. // Lois Lane seeks to hide some dark secret out of her past when she willingly pays off a blackmailer in #71 of her book. // The Legion of ~~Super~~ Super Heroes sends out an SOS for the five most notorious villains in the universe to join their ranks in order to halt a threat that would destroy the whole galaxy, in the pages of Adventure for January, #352.// The Justice League makes a guest appearance in Superman 192 for January. Kent no longer has his super powers, and manages to get Lois to marry him! The only

problem is that they become the proud parents of a bouncing super brat! HOLY SUSPENSE!! // In the Superman Annual for February, you'll find the long Death of Superman tale along with many other stories from the last 10-15 years. // Action 345 for January has Clark changing into Supe in front of the Candid Cameras!

AND EVEN MORE FROM DC--

Showcase for February, #66 introduces B' Wana Beast who comes forth from the jungle to battle the menaces to mankind. And you gotta admit, thats mighty neighborly of him. // Strange Adventures 195 features the return of A-Man with his animal powers, while the follow up ish returns the man with the computer mind. /Personally, I liked Immortal man-Ed./ // Things blow hot and cold for the Flash with the return of the Temperature Twins--Captain Cold and Heat Wave. // A powerless Green Lantern faces Thraxton the powerful on a strange planet out in space in the 50th issue of his book in January. // Scooter's sister reveals that she was the teenage bride of the Martian in #4 of her brother's book.

LATE FANZINE NEWS--

Rick Weingroof has collected a number of older articles and produced TINT, the followup to Slam Bang. These are the deeper--analyizing articles for which Rick is so well known. Well worth the 50¢ from 3231 Southgreen Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21207.

ERBdom, the fanzine for fans of Edgar Rice Burroughs, is now in its 18th issue, and is one of the finest zines covering this field of intrest. All of the back issues are still available for 50¢, and fans will be particularly interested in #12 which featured some info on Hal Foster, and Prince Vallian.

Wally Wood's fanzine, ET CETERA, is advertised elsewhere in this issue, and now that I have seen it, I must say, this will be a true fan collectors item. He has, however changed the name to WHITZEND. Get it now, or you'll never forgive yourself.

Super-Adventures from Marvin Wolfman is a fine combination of ama comics and letters of comment on fans and pros. The 30¢ price is worth it for some fine material. Send to 142-18 59 Ave. Flushing, NY. 11355

Fan to Fan is back, and Bob Butts has done a fine job on this ish. Rick Weingroff is here with a parody entitled the Legion of Gosh Wow. Mickey Schwaberow has an interesting satire entitled "The Sarcastic Four and Dr. Gloom. There is much more for 50¢ to: 719 Pierce St., South Bend, Ind. 46616.

BilJo White keeps Batman fans forever filled with info on the coweled crimefighter. Each issue is filled with the trivial and the true on this 30 year old strip. 40¢ to Box 115, Columbia, Mo. 65201.

Fantasy Illustrated 6 proves to be the finest issue yet for fantasy fans. Bill is ever improving his zine, and has increased the size for this issue. I for one, can't see how he does it for a mere 60¢. Color covers and all to: 4878 Granada St. , Los Angeles, Cal. 90042.

Jeff Gelb tells me that Men Of Mystery 4 will be the finest issue yet. There is to be a 30 plus page article on the many facets of the Lone Ranger, by the Gateway Club's own Allen Logan. Moreover, the artist of this strip has done the cover. All for 50¢ to: 125 Glen Ellyn Way, Rochester, NY. 14618.

Robert Greene, 545 Cleveland Ave. South Bend, Ind. 46628 has produced a really fine new zine called Rapport. Ronn Foss, L. L. Simpson, Steve Perrin, and Bob are here in a great first issue. A mere 35¢will do it.

Copies of Vanguard are still available from Paul Leiffer at 148 S. Wrexham, Tonawanda, NY. 14150. This zine is dollar, and worth every penny. Highly recomended by ME.

For more information on fanzines, see Bill Spicer and John McGeehan's columns in other portions of this issue.

AND FROM:

Paul Leiffer comes word that BESTSELLERS magazine for August '66 writes that 120 Licensees are now producing Batman products, and that the top comic publishers are now releasing a total of 324 titles. In his editorial to the magazine retaiers, Roger Damio writes "Let's not shortchange the "Batman" bonanza -- Millions of moppets are marching...right to your door!..But look again, there they stand with bubble gum in mouth and "Batman" in mind. These youngsters of today are the adults of tomorrow! Will these eager "Batman" fans of today enjoy the experience of browsing at your reading racks? Will they want to make it a regular habit? Will they? What a grand oportunity for ambitious retailers!" /You can almost see him drool as you read it./

Ken Keller--A new artist may soon be braking into the ranks of the newspaper cartoonists with a number of fine strips. Among the strips are Jeffry Ragg and the Bucannirs, Did You Ever Wonder, Grand Hotel, and Professor YaBut. /Ken also sent some samples of this artists work, whose name is Joe Salini by the way, but space prevented our printing it. However, Ken has writen a really fine article for Gosh Wow 1 on Mr. Salini's career, and work. Along with the article will be many unpublished samples of this great artists work. Moreover, Mr. Salini has done a spectacular covef for us which will be run in full color./

Andy Zerbe tells us that Tarzan returns to monthly again, with 8 issues continuing the present format, and 4 issues based on the TV series. // A contract has been signed to film a pilot for a proposed TV series based on the Kevin the Bold Sunday strip. // The June issue of WRITERS DIGEST has an article on comic book publishers, and gave the rates of pay for many of them.

A LITTLE HUMOR FROM MIKE FLEISHER

ACADEMY FORUM

LETTERS

George Detrow
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Hagerstown, Md.
21740

I have just read Dave Kaler's Academy Forum, and I for one am not about to send $5. for any of the items he proposed in issue 4. In the first place, we have already paid out $2. for which we recieved absolutely nothing. Are we just to forget this and send in another $5. on top of it? In my book, this is akin to a criminal act. You just don't go around collecting money for something then not giveing anything in return. // Dave also says that the Academy, in its present form, gives many people the impression that we are all a bunch of children. Well, what he has suggested, in my opinion, only adds insult to injury. Can you picture me, a 40 year old man, parading around with a pin that labels me as a comic fan? I'd probibly be laughed out of town.

Raymond Miller
119½ Longfellow St.
Vandergrift, Pa.

As both Dave Kaler and Bill Spicer put it, our last academy dues payment brought only promises. If the Gateway Club can help pull it together, I am all for it, but after reading Dave's letter, I doubt if anything will help. Does Dave really feel that fans will pay $5 dues per year, after paying $2 and not relevng a thing? I for one, am not. However, Dave does have some good ideas: 1) We should have a membership card or pin, but too, this would actually serve no purpose. So few fans are able to see each other, that the idea would be wasted. A rubber stamp, however, might be just the thing. These could be used to stamp ones correspondance with: "I am a member of the academy...". Or perhaps we could make use of gummed labels. These may be had for the low price of 1000 for 35¢. 2) A change in name is a good idea, but Comicollectors International still leaves much to be desired. Now Comic Art Collectors International sounds a good deal better. Moreover, the word "art" brings it up a peg or two, as well as showing that we don't all like Batman. Points Dave brought out which I do agree with are-- 1) Raising the fee. 2) The proposed "bi-monthly" zine. It is hard enough to put out a newsletter like OTDB on a regular schedule, but to try a regular article zine of full size would be a foolish attempt. Even Alter Ego cannot manage a regular schedule, and it is fandom's top zine. I recomend keeping all of this material in OTDB, and keeping it as a monthly bulletin.

John McGeehan
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Santa Ana, Cal.
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Dave has some excellent ideas as to what the Academy needs (new name, membership card & pin, etc.) but I will be very surprised if 2 fans will put out the $5 he has asked for. I feel that if the Academy could show some sign of waking up, such as puting out the Who's Who, fans would not be so hesitant about joining again. // If nothing else, though, the Academy has been a benifit in the fact that is gives fans a group name that the newspapers and magazines can use in their articles. // The last edition of the Who's Who had 2000 names listed; but 1200 of these were of persons to whom Jerry had sent copies of TCR, and few are still in fandom now. Actually, there were about 800 active to semi-active people, but the newspapers have listed it at 2000, which is to our advantage. // The only solution to getting the Academy back on its feet is to publish the Who's Who and I presume there is enough money in the treasury to do this. Then, even though you will be giving fans their $5 worth with the card, pin, OTDB, and bi-monthly zine, if doubt if you will get many, if any, $5 payments. You will either have to have outside financing to star; start small with what funds you have by comencing with OTDB and working up to the pin and other items, or else just give members OTDB and card for their dues (which would be cheaper) and charge for the other items. The Burroughs Bibliophiles do this with their 2 publications and a club roster given free, and charging for the pins and other items. There are also some seperate special publications from time to time which are sold only to members. // I also agree that board members should volunteer for the job first, and not be nominated on the basis of popularity for something they neither want nor deserve. I also feel that it would be wise to have board members meet some minimum requirements or be given the boot and not have persons on the board who have never responded to the votes called for.

Danny Cassidy
5514 Norde Dr.
Jacksonville, Fla.
32210

The Academy has been the subject of much concern for many of us in recent months. I have a few recomendations to offer for concideration: I recomend that the fee for membership be raised to $2 every six months. The fee originally set, was too small to provide anything of value to members. Charging an immediate $4 for membership may tend to be too great an obsticle for many younger fans, where as most can come up with the $2 sum twice a year. // The leadership of the Academy should consist of a director or president, and there should be a number two man to take over in case the director discontinues his services. There should be a board or group of officers to aid in dirceting the many activities. This central organization should consist of about 50 members, chosen from a number of applicants. The director should apoint committees from these board members to handle such jobs as advertisment, Alley Awards, Who's Who, etc. Thos members who have not taken an active role should be suspended, and a replacement found. // I would also like to see some variety in the offering of the Academy as far as projects go.

Wayne Warfield
Route 1
Coffman's Trailer Pk.
Rising Sun, Md.

Although I have been in fandom for a number of years, and suported many fan activities, I have not once given more than a passing thought as to joining the Academy. Need you ask why? Certainly the recent debate points out many reasons for my actions, not to mention others. I personally think that confusion is the key reason for the tumble of the Academy. Those persons who have commented thus far on the subject, have on the whole presented many good ideas, which I tend to agree with. The Academy of old, however, as well what has been said one the present one, still do not realize the main fault that is evident! To put it in plain terms, the academy has too much high class! Who are we kidding? These discussions get to sound like a discussion of congress. We speak of a number of board positions and nonsense. How many average John Doe readers do you think know what these people are supposed to do, what kind of people they are, etc. The big name members of fandom have a habit of doing the least work. Derrill is the one exception who comes immediately to mind, with no disregard to many others. I say this only to avoid any misconseptions. // I recomend that we find out (and soon) just who is willing to work, what their policies are, exactly what members will recieve, and put it in simple terms. I would also like to recomend that the academy be split into groups or committees. Among these groups I would include a publishing group, an idea group, a mailing group, and an advertising group. By splitting the organization into groups, the burden of the offices will be lessened. And for gosh sakes, let's get the John Does back into active fandom. // Other policies I think necessary are: The ex board should have no final say on any matter. All moves should be voted on by the members. Members who care not enough to vote, should be eliminated from the ranks, though after sufficient warning. No exceptions should be made. Let's get these do-nothing members out. // Secondly, the people who are really active (zine eds, etc.) should do no more than represent the John Does. If they have any ideas, let them put it to a vote, like everyone else. // Thirdly, to restate a point already skimmed, a presdent runs for election and goes to office on his policies. Wether or not he can acomplish these policies is another matter. I personally think that Dave's suggestions are the best thus far. // Re: The mention of the Who's Who: I feel that any discussion on this matter is senseless. The problem now is policy. Therefore, if the votes show that a Who's Who is wanted, it should be added to the new policy. The question, therefore, is to do, or not to do. What is the problem? Anyone with an ounce of common sense knows that it could not be properly compiled for this year. Let's put the new Academy on schedule for '67 and use the remainder of '66 to regroup and establish a policy. // Derrill's comments that the board members of the past were not willing to work is pretty funny. This is a point I've tried to get across for quite some time! Why should people like this be in there in the first place? Now is the time to get members that will do something. // Most of what Derrill says is 100% correct, except...I can not see the board having the last word on anything. His theory that members who disagree can vote out those responsible is a little foolish. This just doesn't seem like a good idea to have. When one group has this much power, what is the use of voting? They have the ability to overpower any number of votes from the members. Themembership is the heart of the organization. Without supporting members, there is no board. I strongly urge a change in attitude on this before we get back to a dictator ship! // On another subject, I have the latest list of items from Jerry Bails, and have noted with dispair, that the Guidebook to Comics Fandom is no longer available. It was my understanding that this was to be a perminantly 'in-print' publication, for the bennifit of new fans. I feel that one of the new Academy's first moves must be to correct this error and make arrangements to reinstate it. // Lastly, and some what off the subject, I wonder if anyone has ever checked into the possibility of Golden Age characters on whom the copyright has expired. If this were so, fandom could arrange to reprint these as a project.

AND IN RETROSPECT...

As editor-publisher of OTDB, I have the distinct privilege of being able to force you to listen to my ramblings. Thus far I have allowed all of the previous letters to go unanswered; and believe me, at times it

was a bit of a strain. Therefore, lest I become a nervous wreck, I would like to make my feelings on the Academy publicly known. // During the last few years I have had the opertunity to assume and observe many techniques of leadership and organization. I have seen many types of people, and I have encountered many situations, all of which, in my opinion, qualify me to make the following statements. // Too damn many fans are putting the blame for the Academy's current plight into the wrong hands. When Jerry Bails created comic fandom, he created an organization, with a charter, that adhered to the type of organization that interested HIM. He is not to be blamed for this; however, not all fans are interested purely in super hero comics. Jerry did a great many things for the Academy and organized fandom, the LEAST of which is the Academy. As time went on, Jerry added a number of other facets to the Academy. Among these are the microfilm and fanzine libraries, and the Alley Awards. In short, Jerry molded the Academy into an organization for people with intrests similar to his. Through no fault of his own, Jerry's organization had no appeal for many other fans. Indeed, I believe it was his sole purpose to create an organization for fans of the super hero, with special intrest placed on the 1940's. Eventually, however, nord diversely interested people joined the ranks, and once there, found that the Academy gave them nothing for their $2. The problem increased many times over when some of these people were elected to the executive board! These are the inactive fans which Derrill made referance to. One such fan for example, is Phil Seuling, who said as much in RB-CC 45. // In accordance with the Academy charter, Jerry passed on his position to the capable hands of Paul Gambaccini who, for many months continued to keep the Academy going as a working organization. During this period, I feel the Academy was at it's peak of potential. For the interested, there was a good deal to be gained by cashing in those cupons. For example, look at this list:

ITEM:	VALUE:
WHO'S WHO	$1.50
Savings on:	
TCR	
Alter Ego	
microfilm	$1. (at least)
Microfilm Library	
fanzine Library	no monetary value, but worth the price.

As you can see at a glance, the over-all value is in excess of the $2 charge. // Ok; as we all know, Paul was unable to continue his fanac, and the Academy was left without a leader. Here was an organization that was suffering from internal strife due to its limitations, and to be left with out a chief organizer was a blow from which it may never recover! During this crucial period, Dave Kaler offered his services, and meeting no particular oposition, was placed in office. Dave's intrests are far abroad of those of his mentors, and this may be just the thing the Academy needs. //

Right now, everyone is making proposals, as to what the Academy must do. Many of these are good, others bad. Let's try to distinguish here:

A new name: I dispute this change on the basis of triviality. Dave has contended that many pros avoid us and even laugh at our efforts, when they hear the name "comic book fans". I can well understand this, but I feel that pros will respect us for ourselves. If we do not deserve respect, no name what-so-ever will change their attitude. More imprortant, the name "comic book fans" is out-dated! No longer is comic fandom composed entirely of super hero fans. I for one, enjoy everthing from Pogo to Prince Valliant that is good, and both of these features appeared in comic books at one time. I recomend a mere change in words; from "comic book", to "comic ART". This one word has a psychological effect that makes a world of difference, and it includes the special intrest groups in fandom.

Raising the price for membership: I think it is safe to say that many fans will dispute this because they don't feel their envestment would be safe. Danny Cassidy's suggestion would partially elevate this, but I have a more realistic outlook to the situation. When you pay a fee to recieve something free and something else reduced, you are in effect paying the original fee, but not all at the same time. Also, this has the effect of limiting participation in that one must belong to recieve. However, if fans want to recieve special publications such as the guide bood and index to the golden age, at a reasonable price, having such an organization as the Academy and its treasury are a big help in keeping down the price. I suggest basing our system, as John McGeehan said, afer the Burroughs Bibliophiles. That is, charging a fee such as $2 a year, for which members recieve a card, and the two publications. This proves quite economical for us; if we have TCR (as the type of minor article zine Dave proposed) and OTDB (as a monthly newszine). This will eliminate the $2, however since fans will continue to send in the $2 from year to year, there will always be a certain amount of money on hand which can be used to print a form of the Who's Who. Those familliar with the Burroughs organization willautomaticlly recognize the resemblance. However the important thing is that fans will be getting more than their money's worth. Other things such as pins and special publications are sold, but ONLY TO MEMBERS. This proves to be quite an atractive drawing card in Burroughs fandom, for they often reprint rare ERB stories and art. In our case, it could be rare strips etc. They alsosell a t-shirt, but this is in addition to the membership fee, and members are not under any obligation to take it, if it is not to their intrest. This is the key phrase, as like us, they do not all have entirely the same intrests.

Alley Awards would be paid for out of the basic entrance fee, but we must not limit the voting to members. I feel that all zine eds should be asked to carry a copy of the ballot, and even though they cannot be forced to do this, many would voluntarily offer to do so. This would result in a much wider voting, and in giving more respect to the award as a truely valuable thing. Eventually, it could take on as much importance to the comic pro as the Hugo Award takes on for the sciende fiction pro. In fact, pros should even be encouraged to vote!

Source of power: In this issue, Wayne Warfield says, and quite forcefully, that the final word on any matter, must not be the decission of the board. I concur with equal forcefulness! In EVERY organization, the basic desions are controlled by some form of executive committee. In the case of comic fandom, this is a veritable necessity! In the course of a year, I cannot forsee the passage of more than 6 or 7 'bills' because of the time it takes a) the US Postal system, and b) people to discuss anything were a difference of opinion enters in. At least in a smaller group things can move faster. But the primary obsticle to having each member vote is not really an obsticle, but rather common sense. That is, that these board members are only fans. They are the fans YOU elected, and they have the same intrests you do. The board members have NO obligation to represent you, but the secretary does! If you have a suggestion to open for discussion, you should send it to Dave who will see that it is opened for comment in OTDB, but he will also call for a vote of the board members, who will, and must have the final say.

At the present however, time is of the essence. As I write this, the date is October 7. That means that there are just less than 3 months left this year. This fact is significant in that Academy registration has been (and should continue to be) conducted on an annual basis. In other words, we must begin NOW to solicit (in every possible fanzine) for new members with a form letter dictating the benifits etc. This is also important in that too long a delay will eventually result in such a great lack of intrest, that no effort will bring back such an organization. If the Burroughs fans could learn from the mistakes made by their SF cohorts, why can't we???

And in conclusion, I would like to make it known, that the Gateway Club was more or less unofficially made editors of OTDB. We aided in the printing or mailing of issues 3-5, but this is the first issue to be solely under our handling. We hope you enjoy it, but I have a recurrent feeling of guilt. That is, that the board should have been the one to make the decision as to whom this mag was passed on to. I am sure that with Derrill's aid, they would have made the same decission, but this does not make it right. This IS the Academy's fanzine, not mine, the clubs, or anyone elses. I do their bidding, and I intend to see to it that if I fall into the same predicament as Glen or Derrill, that I turn it over to the Academy, and do not make this decission myself. I sincerely hope that you enjoy this issue, and will let us know if you like us or agree with us.

I rest my soap box--
Bob Schoenfeld

Bob

the end—

or:

how'zat for composin' at the typer ?

in depth: THE EGO CRUSHER listing:

Bill Spicer
4878 Granada St.
Los Angeles, Calif.
90042

John Mc Geehan
405 East 5th St.
Santa Ana, Calif.
92701

THE CARTOONIST #1, The International Comic Art Society c/o Jerry Kay, Box 1281, Hollywood, Cal, 90028. 75¢ a copy, or $4.50 per year. Published bi-monthly. Photo-offset throughout, 32 pages, 2-color covers.

My first reaction to The Cartoonist was that Jerry's choice of material is inconsistent with the INCAS' credo: "INCAS--The International Comic Art Society; a non-profit organization developed for the serious study and historic evaluation of comics and related material as an aesthetic form of graphic arts."

Editor and publisher Jerry Kay has put togerher a first issue that indicates potential of fulfilling the INCAS credo, but has included little if any material to support it. I found no. 1 to contain no serious study and historic evaluation of comics, nor any particular tendancy toward examining the medium as an aesthetic form of graphic arts. Perhaps this condition will improve with future issues. I sincerely hope so. The comics field could use a magazine devoted to commentary and analysis of its product in all aspects: art, story, past and present trends, plus its possibilities for further development. /NOTE: This review was written before Bill had seen The World of Comic Art-ed/

In place of material that might at least partially uphod the magazine's policy, as defined in the INCAS' moto, Jerry has published a rather shallow selection of "pop-art"-oriented articles, all of which are too brief to do justice to further successful exploitation of the recent "pop-art" coverage in national magazines. If The Cartoonist was an "outside" magazine looking in, the approach might work. However, as an "inside" magazine looking out, the pop attitude does not seem quite proper. The "camp" movement and creeping commercialism attendant to comic book collecting, and articles on subjects reported at length in numerous national magazines and newspaper articles, do not belong in magazine that we are led to believe is the showcase for an organization that is "...developed for the serious study and historic evaluation of comics and related material as an aesthetic form of graphic arts."

Most of us know better. Mass-magazine exploitation of "pop-art" and "camp" is not a legitimate expression of the comics medium as an art form; while this viewpoint has made acceptable reading in publications like Time and Look, it is of no special concern to those of us genuinely interested in the medium from within as a means of creative and artistic expression--an audience to whom The Cartoonist is assumed to be directed. Any space given to "pop" could be valid if it represents the serious students reaction to "pop", but The Cartoonist does not even choose to do this. Not, at least, in number 1.

The specific contents of Jerry's first issue consist mostly of fillers and reprints. There is a cursory explanation and examination of amature magazines, "These Things Called Fanzines," by Jerry Hasson, which is intended for the non-fan's information. The Cartoonist does not concider itself a fanzine, by the way, and if its publisher has distribution outlets other than fandom, then an article of this kind is informative to those not acquainted with amature magazines in the comics field; to the fan, however,it offers little of intrest. It is also too brief to really fulfill its purpose--unless, as I suspect, it was used chiefly as filler material.

The two reprint articles are both from the UCLA Bruin, a student newspaper. One is "Batman On Television" (from "Camping Out With Batman," by Tom Nolan) and and the other is "Burt Blum: King of The Comics," also by Tom Nolan. As printed in their original form--The UCLA Bruin--they are campy enough in form to be good; but here in The Cartoonist, with a readership that I presume to be non-camp, they are not particularly at home, nor do they fall entirely within the sphere of comic art in general. "...and related material," in this case, is stretching the point.

"Pop Art And Comic Art," by Jack Temple, establishes and reinforces The Cartoonist #1's overall pop-arty approach. Reproduced are a Campbell's soup can label--this one happens to be Vegetable; I believe it was Lichtenstein or Warhol who used Tomato--and a couple of "Op Art" concentric bullseyes. The article itself, again, is too short and underdeveloped for effective presentation of its subject matter--and even if it was an in-depth look at pop art trends, it would appear out of place in a magazine of theoretically devoted to the essential character of comic art.

Probably the best feature in the issue is a setion entitled, "Comic Classics", a four page spread of the first three Buck Rogers daily strips. Although these have been previously reprinted in more complete form, inclusion of this material is the closest The Cartoonist comes to meeting its credo. The only thing lacking, is an acompanying article. Id does include a few footnotes which inform readers of the basic data on the strip's creators, names and dates, but that is about all.

"Showcase" features original comic strips, the first one being "The Highwayman," an origin story written and illustrated by Ronn Foss. I believe Ronn has produced a better brand of art in some of his other strips, but "The Highwayman" is still a good example of amateur-created comics in the super hero vein.

Jerry apologizes in his editorial for the physical appearance of The Cartoonist. As first issues go, it is fairly well done throughout: the photo offset printing is crisp and clear, with professional wrap-around binding that provides a good solid package.

My comments on The Cartoonist have been based on the first issue. By the time this review is published, the second ish may be out; if it is, I optimistically anticipate that it contains indications of closer alignment with its credo, which I believe to be an admirable one for such a magazine.

--Bill Spicer--

FANZINE INDEX

June 1, to present

rating: (5) All fans should get zines with a 5 rating.
(4) For all but the most discriminating fan.
(3) Get these after purchasing zines with 4 or 5 ratings. Often contain material of minor intrest or quality.
(2) Get these only if you want to help out the publisher.
(1) For completists, and friends or helpers.

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Adventure Heroes Hide-A-Way (#10-July 6 '66) 34(1) pgs. John Buccafusco, 136 Prospect St., Jersey City, NJ. 07307, membership, ditto, 3.

All Stars (#1-July 5 '66) 5½"x 8½", 40 pgs. Marty Arbunich, 60 Gladys St. , San Francisco, Cal. Litho, 50¢, 5.

Armagedon (#1-Sept 6 '66) & Crypt (#2-Sept 6 '66) 98 pg Mike Maxim, 4831 E. Superior St., Deluth, Minn. 55804. dit/mim, $1., 4. Stapled into one issue.

Bat Bulletin (#105-Aug 30 '66) 2 pages, BilJo White. dit, s.a.e. , a 1 to a 5 depending on your intrest in Batman. Box 115, Columbia, Mo. 65201

Batmania (#12-Aug 17 '66) 28(2) pgs, BilJo White, Box 115, Columbia, Mo. 65201. 40¢, a 1 to a 5 depending on your intrest in Batman.

Bombshell (#4-Sept 7 '66) 62 pgs, Tony Rotheford, 1046 Jackson Ave, Huntington, W. Va. 25704. Dit, 40 (10)¢, 3

Comic Art (#6 11 '66) 56(1) pgs. Don & Margaret Thompson do not need any more contributors, so no more info will be given on this zine.

Comic Examiner, The (#3-July 26 '66) 24(1) pgs. Jim Dee Box 1245, San Luis Obispo, Cal.,93491. Dit, 15(10)¢ 3

Comic Club News (#6-Aug 17 '66) 22(1) pgs. Gabe Eisenstein, 7914 Paxton, Chicago, Ill. Dit, 15(10)¢,1

Comic Feature, The (#5-Aug 19 '66) 40(1) pgs. Larry Walczak, 3102 Plum St, Erie, Pa. 16508. Dit, 25(10)¢, 3

Comic-Post (#1-Sept, 6 '66) 63(1) pgs. Keith Morgan, Barrington St.,Rochester, NY. 14607, Dit, 30¢, 3

Comic Reader, The / On The Drawing Board. If you are reading this you know about both of these.

Comic Vendor, The (#3-Sept, 9 '66) 44(2) pgs. Alan Jadro, 40 Stevenson Lane, Upper Saddle River, NJ. 07458 Mim, 40(10)¢, 3

Datelines Comicdom (#16-Sept, 13 '66) 14(1) pgs is published by Robert Greene, 545 Cleveland Ave, South Bend, Ind. Dit, for loc's to ama authors & writers only, 5.

Dual Identity (#3-July 30 '66) 30(1) pgs. Bill Brusedh 738 E. Kemp Pl, Covina, Cal. 91722. Mim, 35(10)¢, 3

Eccentric (#1-June 7 '66) 48(25) pgs. John Barrett, 4890 Clydell Ave, San Jose, Cal, 95124. Dit, 35(10)¢,3

Fan Mag Illustrated (#2-Aug 18 '66) 38(1) pgs. Matt Curtus, 1405 N. Willard, Altus, Okla. Dit, 35(5)¢,2. Number 3 will cost 50¢

Fanzine (#1-Sep 6 '66) 34(2) pgs. Keith Morgan, 393 Barrington St., Rochester, NY. 14607. Dit, 40¢, 2

Golden Age, The (#2-July 15 '66) 42(2) pgs. Gordon B. Love, 9875 S.W. 212 St. Miami 57, Fla. Photo-stencil, 60¢, 5.

Great Classic Newspaper Comic Strips #1 thru 4 are available at $5 per copy from Ed aprill Jr., 5272 W. Liberty Rd., ann Arobor, Mich. 48103. Numbers 1 & 2 reprint the first 198 daily Buck Rogers strips. The 3rd issue reprints the 1929 Sky Roads strips (#'s 52-137) and the 4th reprints the first 93 spirit daily strips.

Hornet (#1-Aug 22 '66) 42(1) pgs. Paul Akers, 4820 Ohio St. S. Charleston, W. Va. 25309. Dit, 50¢, 3

Illustrated Comic Collectors Handbook, The (#2-Aug 4 '66 7"x10½", 38 pgs. Gordon Love, 9875 S.W. 212 St. Miami, 57 Fla. Litho, $1., a 5 if you don't mind the price.

K-Alpha (22-Aug 11 '66) 44(2) pgs. Don & Margaret Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd., Mentor, Ohio, 44060. by contribution (published) and membership. Dit, mim, lit. 5, requires 60 pages every 4 months.

Marvel Gazette (#12)-Aug 26 '66) 24(1) pgs. Victor Boruta, 14 Gesner St. Linden, NJ.07036. Dit, 20(10)¢, 3

Marvel Mania (#3-July 1 '66) 6 pgs. Danny Dowel, 5729 Ammons, Fort Worth, Tex. 76117, Dit. 20(10)¢, 1

Marvel Mania Newsletter (#5-July '66) 30(15) pgs. Jack Reynolds, 76 Brighton Rd, N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30309. Dit. 50(10)¢, 2

Mastermind (#2- Aug 10 '66) 64(1) pgs. Steve Fears, 320 E. Second St., Edmund, Okla. 73034. Dit, 50(10)¢, 4

Meteor,The (#3-July 5'66) 18(1) pgs. Bob Muller, 1108 western AVe. Belleville, Ill. 62221 Dit, 10(10), 2

Pop Comics (#3-Aug 23'66) 22 pgs. John Lebar, 305 N. Jordan St. Allentown, Pa, 18102. ama satrips, Dit, 25 (10), 2

RocketS Blast & Comicollector (#46-Aug) 94(2) pgs is published by Gordon Love, 9875 S.W .213 St. Miami 57, Fla. Mim, 4/$1. 8/$2. 50¢ per single ish. 5

Smasheroo Comics (#3-Aug 66) 44(1) plus 8(4) 11"x17" pgs.. Richard Flinchbaugh, RD 1, Box 403, Seneca, Pa. 16346. Dit, 25(10)¢, 3 or 4.

Star Studded Comics (#9-Aug '66) [illegible] 36 pgs. Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland, Carrolton, Tex. 75006. Ama satrips, Litho, 50¢, 5

Super Hero Mike Tuohey requests that all who ordered the third issue of this zine please be patient as he and Rich Buckler will get it out soon. Rich is the new ed, and the third issue was Mike's last ish.

World of Comic Art, The (#1-Aug, 17'66) 52(2) pgs. Box 507, Hawthorne Calif, 90250. Litho, $1. 5

Wow Comics (#2-July 19'66) 26 pgs. Dan Wicker, 7516 W. Henry Ave. Tampa, 5 Fla. 33615. Dit, 25(10), 2

Incognito (#4-July 19'66) 36 pgs plus an 18pg extra. Bill Schelley, 881, Lovington Drive, Pgh., Penna.15216 dit/mim, 35+5, 3.

OTHER AMZINES OF INTEREST TO COMIC FANS:

Classic Film Collector (formerly 8mm Collector) is published by Samuel K. Rubin, 734 Philadelphia St., Indiana, Penna. 15701. 12" x 16" pulp newspaper size & type printing, 50+10, 5. This quarterly pub is No.One in the film field & due to tremendousfirst printings & reprintings all 15 issues are still available @ 50¢ ea. The current issue is #15 dated Summer'66 with 40 12" x 16" pages.

Cooper's Hero-Hobby (#6-Sep 8'66) 52 pgs is published by John C. Cooper, Rt. 3, Box 305, Clarksburg, West. Va., 26301. This pub contains a mixture of material on comics, films, radio & TV shows & anyone interested in these fields should get it since considering the almost total absence of am pubs covering all these fields & its frequency of publications, Cooper's H-H rates a 5 [illegible] 65+0 or 2 for $1.00

Kaleidoscope is published by Don Shay & Ray Cabaha, Jr. at 75¢ (next issue 95¢ or 3 ish for $2) per copy from Ray Cabana, Jr., 95 Dearborn St., E. Longmeadow, Mass., 01028. This is a film zine with text articles, listings & reprints of stills. The current issue (Vol.2#2) has material on the Flash Gordon serials, an interview with Buster Crabbe & a BC film listing. K'scope is lithoed, 6" x 8½" and #2 has 36 pgs with #3 to have 52. Shay & Cabana sunk sixteen hundred dollars into copies of Vol. 2 #1 & 2 & the 3rd one in preparation and I hope that all film, FG and even just any am zine fan will purchase a copy so that they'll eventually break even and not have gambled & lost with K'scope going into LIMBO!

Pulp Era, The (#3, July 25'66) 56(2) pgs is published by The Pulp Era Press, 413 Ottokee St., Wauseon, Ohio, 43567. Lit. or high quality mim, 35+10, 5. This pub contains articles, indexes & artwork (folios & illos; no strips by amateurs & pros such as Barr & Prosser) on the old pulp magazines & old & revived characters & reprints.

Rapport (#2-Aug.23'66) (there was no #1) 34(3) pgs is published by Robert Keith Green, 545 Cleveland Ave., South Bend, Ind., 46628. dit, 35+10, 5 to those who like 'offbeat' material on such things as sex & censorship by Pons & ordinary things such as an interview with Steve Ditko & an article on Archery in the Comics by S. Perrin.

Spectre (#10-July 11'66) is published by Mike Appel, 1103 Kinsella Ave., Belleville, Ill. 62221. dit, 35+10, 5 to monster fen and not worth it to strictly monster fen. 9-2/3 pgs of its 38(2) pgs was on comics & the Batman TV show.

Trumpet 4, April 1966. Tom Reamy, 1709 Debbie Dr, Plano Texas 75074. 60¢ per copy, 5 issues for $2.50, but also availavle for trade copies of other fanzines.

Begining with the first issue of Trumpet, it was aparent that Tom had set out to produce a magazine which was to be as professional-looking as possible. Its professional-like sheen has remained consistent with all four issues, right down to clearly reproduced photographs, columns of justified text, competent--if sometimes heave handed and baroque--layouts using many of the "in" type-styles from advertising media, and print shop saddle-stitched binding and trimming. It's probably the slickest fan magazine around in terms of physical packaging; on the face of it, Trumpet could pass for a professional newsstand magazine. It's only when you get down to reading it, that its traditionally fannish context begins to show through and you realize that Trumpet is clearly a fanzine after all, containing most of the material which typifies magazines published by science fiction fans.

If I must label Trumpet's main supporting fandom, I guess it would have to be science fiction; its staff of writers and artists are mainly science fiction fans. However Tom's editorial policy seems to be one of something-for-everyone. Number four offers such a wide range of subject matter that I get the feeling it is being directed toward (a) the all-purpose fan, and b) special-intrest fandoms that can usually find something right up their alley in any given issue, even if the rest of the material isn't of any particular intrest.

Here in #4, there is a comic strip, an informative article on Edgar Rice Burroughs by John McGeehan that is written for the casual fan who might like to know more about the basic Burroughsiana, reviews of science fantasy grade B-pictures, and an article by Tom Perry criticising John Campbell (editor of Analog magazine), a one-page art film column by Dan Bates, an article on a British TV program, Dr. Who by Alan Dodd, a fanzine review column by Alex Eisenstein, an article on university politics by Jerry Pournelle, a column of comment-

ary called "A Chatty, Preferably Controversial Column" --this one on the reason why its writer, Andrew Offutt, grew a beard, and printed in a jungle of lower-case letters where caps should be, plus Tom's editorial and a fairly lengthy letter section.

As I've said, Trumpet has a little something for everyone. Everything, perhaps, except a sentance as long as the one I just used to list its contents.

Most of us who are reading this magazine are interested primarily in comics, so the comic strip might well be the major reason why you decided to buy Trumpet The 8 page strip, "The Broken Sword," is adapted by Tom Reamy and based on an original story by Poul Anderson. Artwork is by George Barr. This is the first instalment; its to be continued in future issues, although I don't know if it is to be run in 8 page segments each time. Forthcoming episodes may be longer or shorter.

If you are used to fast-moving adventure strips, action, suspense, mystery, soap-opera style melodrama and character development, you might find "The Broken Sword" to be a little dull. I have never read Mr. Anderson's original story, but the adaptation appears to be a literal, if abreviated, transcription of it; and if you are not a follower of the sword and sorcery story, the naritive may of far less intrest than the art. George Barr's drawing in general is competent throughout, although for preferences it leans too heavilly on the pulp magazine or book-illustration approach His style resembles a combination of Hal Foster, Virgil Finlay and J. Allen St. John: rather stiffly arranged compositioning, and over-rendered textural effects. If St. John had published a feiry tale book during the 1920's, it might have looked something like the drawings for "The Broken Sword". As such, it's not bad at all. It's conciderably superior to much of the comic strip work being done elsewhere in the major fandoms. However, I must question the story's effectiveness on its own merits, not its relative ones. To non-followers of the sword and sorcery genre, "The Broken Sword" makes tedious reading not entirely offset by the art. Its main fault lies in the basic stodgious of art and narrative; there is little real"comics sense" underlying its construction and integration of the component parts which constitute the makeup of a successful graphic story. But, for carefully rendered artwork in a graphic story format, "The Broken Sword" should please a large number of readers, if only because it is an attempt at a quality strip without any traces of hurried production; the art may not be overwelmingly suited to the graphic story medium, but at least it's not of the shlock-it-out-to-make-a-deadline kind. Whether or not the series proves to be popular with Trumpet's readers remains to be seen; my feelings are that sf fans will enjoy it more than comic fans.

--Bill Spicer--

LATE NOTES AND NOTICES

Pyramid books has recently released a 50¢ paperback book of horror stories entitled, "Christopher Lee's Treasury of Terror". The book contains adaptations of stories by Lovecraft, Derleth, Bloch, Kipling, Bierce, and Stoker. All artwork is by John Craig, Russ Jones, Al Mc Williams, and Frank Bolle.

The St. Louis Post Dispatch for October 8 carried an article on "The Man Behind Rex Morgan"--Dal Curtis. I haven't read it yet, but it appears to be very interesting, and covers over ½ page. If you would like to obtain a copy, send 25¢ to the paper at St. Louis Post Dispatch, St. Louis, Mo. While your at it, why not buy a daily paper as well for a dime? It is the ONLY newspaper in the WORLD to carry their daily strips in full color!

There are two paper back books reprinting a number of Andy Capp strips available now. First is "Meet Andy Capp", and second is "Andy Capp Sounds Off". They are printed by Fawcett Gold Medal Books. Both are highly recomended.

Fans with a familliarity to sf fandom, will want to order a copy of NY CON COMICS from Ted White, 339 49th St.,Brooklyn, NY, 11220. It is illustrated by Jack Gaughan. Its main purpose is for publicity for the world con in New York, but proves to be quite clever to anyone with a knowlege of sf fandom goings on. 50¢ is a bit high for8 pages, but I do recomend it.

From Don & Maggie Thompson comes word that Blazing Combat is dead. There will be no issue 5. This is because it was not placed on the rack with other comic and humor books, but was put with the mens sweat magazines, thus out of the reach of children. Too Bad...

Gateway Con I (July 29-31) was a big success, and a very interesting weekend for all concerned. There were about 80 fans present, and we look foreward to an even better turn out with Gateway Con II. There will be a much deeper report in Gosh Wow 1.

Gosh Wow, while I'm on the subject, will have a print run of 500 copies, so if you don't want to miss it, I'd advise an immediate order. Checks & such should be made out to me.

BOB SHOENFELD

If this ish looks like a cram job, it's 'cause it is. We had a lot of material to includ, and only 12 pages to do it in. But these 12 are the equivilent to 24! Whoops--Due to our having switched printers, and that our new printer--Ray Fisher--uses a different process, we were unable to use Steve Kelez's great Plasticman cover. We trust the one by Al Hutchinson is a satisfactory substitute, and we'll have Plas next issue. // Now is a good time to say that were sorry that last ish was miss-numbered; it should have been vol. 2, no. 5.

Copies of TCR 42 & 46 are still available for 75¢ @, or both for $1.25. These are the issues containing material by Johnson, Jennings, Miller, Foss, Ryan, and White. All copies mailed flat.

* CONTRARY TO POPULAR BELIEF

GOSH WOW

1

$1.00

ROBERT SCHOENFELD
9516 MINERVA
ST. LOUIS, MO. 63114

CONTENTS:

BLUE BOLT & GANG; an article of the Novelty Comics Group -- Written by Glen Johnson -- 7 pages.

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